



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

# NEWS RELEASE

Police Department

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **POLICE ARREST JUVENILE FOR POINTING LASER AT HELICOPTER**

**San Diego, CA** - San Diego Police Department patrol officers from Southeastern Division arrested a 16 year old juvenile for pointing a laser at the police helicopter, ABLE.

On Wednesday, January 18, 2012, at about 7:30 p.m., pilots in the San Diego Police Department helicopter were on patrol in the Shelltown area when they were struck by a red laser beam pointed at them from 4100 Eta Street. Officers were directed to the area where the laser beam came from, but were unable to locate the suspect.

On Thursday, January 26, 2012, just after 7:40 p.m., the pilots were again struck by a red laser beam pointed at them from 4100 Eta Street. Due to the repeated laser strikes on the helicopter from this location, the air crew again directed officers to the area. The pilot and observer located the source of the laser strike as a lone male in the backyard of a residence. The air crew maintained visual contact with the suspect as they directed patrol officers to him. The male was contacted in his backyard and taken into custody.

The juvenile was arrested and booked into Juvenile Hall on one count of discharging a laser at an aircraft.

The incident was captured on video. Copies of the video are available at the San Diego Police Department Headquarters Broadway customer service counter.

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